



Holland House School

Dear Parents,

It has been my pleasure to teach children in Y4, Y5, Y6 and Y2 this week. I was so impressed with their continued efforts to learn in these difficult circumstances and touched with the way they shared their feelings of gratitude for the good things in their lives: each child was delightful in their own special and unique way and made me so proud to be their Headmistress!

Our Y6 pupil leaders contacted me this week to ask permission to run a charity event that links in with Random Acts of Kindness Week (starting Monday 15th). I thought this was a heart-warming gesture on their part. Emma, Neeya, Keya, Raiyan and Kimi are asking all HHS pupils to be extra kind next week and carry out as many friendly, generous and considerate acts as they can. Pupils are also invited to make Acts of Kindness posters for a competition. These will be judged by the House Captains and Head Girls when we physically get back to school with prizes in the form of House Points. Posters will also be displayed around the building. There is no obligation to take part in the event and the cost of entry to the competition will be £2, payable once we are back in the classroom; all proceeds will be donated to CAMFED, this year's charity supporting the education of the poorest girls in Africa.

Next week is half-term and there is no homework at all. Instead, please encourage your children to read, run around outside and have as much fun as possible; we will pick up with the lessons when school starts again but right now your children need a much-deserved break.

It just leaves me to wish you all a happy, healthy half-term, filled with kindness.

My warmest regards

Emily Brown



CERTIFICATES AWARDED THIS WEEK

Maya Dodhia Rasul Y2

Arya Shah Y2

Rhidai Akhil Shah Y5

Riya Thakore Y5

Akshi Shah Y5

Yukta Vibhakar Y5

Toniloba Akinosi Y3

Sienna Bhudia Y3

Ria Somaiya Y1

Aiyush Punde Y1

Huan-Li Lee Y6

Jasmine Colibaseanu Y6

Dhyani Halai Y4

Haroon Osman Y4

Ari Jalil Y4

Hussein Darouiche R

Dia Paradkar R

ISA Young Musician Competition

A message from Ms Wold

Thank you very much to all those who participated in the ISA Young Musician Competition 2021 and congratulations to those of you who were selected to enter. ISA has made their choice of finalists and unfortunately Holland House School pupils were not amongst them this time around.

The competition will most likely run again next year, so we look forward to auditioning again!

Interview of the week

Hello staff, parents and students. This week we interviewed Rachel and Sarah Silva (the Head Librarian and a permanent Playground Monitor). We hope you like their interviews and find them interesting. Firstly, Rachel Silva:

Rachel Silva

1. What are the positives of lockdown?
 - a. There are many negative points about lockdown that affect us socially, physically and technically but as we rightly learned, if we keep focusing on the negative, the negative side is the only side we will begin to see. Although we would love to be with our friends and teachers again, lockdown encourages new ways of learning and represents the technological innovation that we have! Secondly, the weather. Even though everyone loves snow, if you drive to school, the roads would be slippery and hazardous. If you walk, then the cold will probably get the better of you, so it's much nicer to enjoy the snow from the comfort of our homes, gardens or nearby parks. Finally, lockdown gives us the time to reflect. It gives us the time to sit down to enjoy a good book and most importantly, it gives us the time to change ourselves.
2. What do you get to do as library monitor?
 - a. Whilst at home, not a lot can be done, but when I did attend school physically, I loved going to the library and organising the returned books with my deputy librarians, Anika and Joshika. We also created "Books of the Week" and pinned information about them to the board in the library which included the recommended reading age, the style of book and what we enjoyed about it so others could have a chance to enjoy it as we did. Our current goal is to create a list of books for every year group, so when we do return, everyone will have a recommended selection. I love making reading a delight, so can only hope that we can return to school very soon.
3. Do you have any books you could recommend for any age group?
 - a. One series of books that I really enjoyed was The Diamond Brothers by Anthony Horowitz. I loved the comical side of it, and the description was truly ground-breaking. I also liked the way that it means a lot more when you read it with a sibling or adult, picking out the vocabulary and literary devices. This always transforms any book, but I suggest this book because I could just picture the main characters foiling the plots of cleverly designed villains, every step of the way.

Sarah Silva

1. What is the greatest thing you have achieved during lockdown?

The greatest thing I have achieved was probably finishing a book I have been writing. Writing a book is so hard, and I learnt many things from it, as I am currently writing a second one of the series! Writing is something I take a lot of pleasure in doing because it clears the mind and I find it relaxing.
2. Are you excited to come back to school at some point?

Well, this is a tricky question because there are pros and cons of being at school. As a person that walks to school, in winter, it is much better to be at home than braving blizzards outside. I do miss all my friends and teachers though and there is the benefit of not having any technical difficulties. Overall, I would love to come back to school, and am hoping that this will be the case.
3. Do you recommend anything to do during break and lunch other than getting a snack?

As we are all at home now, it is incredibly important to stretch our legs and take time away from the screens. For those that can go outside I would recommend this. Especially with the snow outside, you cannot be bored! If you can't go outside, play a board game or read a book. Listen to some music to take your mind off school and the current situation. It's all about finding the calm on the chaos.

Thank you for reading our interview and we hope you have a wonderful half term.

Emma Shah and Neeya Patel.